(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. There has been no misuse of modular laboratories No.3-319-S, Trombay, Mumbai.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Misuse of BARC laboratories

2553. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether instances of gross misuse of BARC's laboratories in the recent past by Government authorities for unofficial purposes, have come to Government's notice;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise in view of (a) above

Installation of Nuclear Power Plants

2554. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI :
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Nuclear Power Corporation of India has surveyed the sites for the location of nuclear power plants for electricity generation in power deficient States;

(b) if so, the sites identified and how much power generation is being targeted;

(c) whether any site for the State of Madhya Pradesh has been identified;

(d) whether any time schedule has been finalised for the installation and commissioning of these plants; and

(e) whether Government have made any scheme for providing power to different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The Site Selection Committee (SSC) constituted by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has surveyed sites in the different regions of the country.

(b) Government has not taken any decision on the sites for future projects. The medium term nuclear power programme envisages addition of 1300 MWe during the Tenth plan to the existing capacity of 2720 MWe, thereby taking the total capacity to 4020 MWe by the end of the Tenth plan and progressively reaching a total nuclear power capacity of 6680 MWe by December, 2008. Work on these projects is progressing as per schedule. A total nuclear capacity of about 10.000 MWe by the end of the Eleventh Plan (2011 -12) and 20,000 MWe by the year 2020 has been planned.

(c) Bargi in Mandla District and Rajapur in Shivpuri District are among the sites investigated by the SSC in Madhya Pradesh.

(d) No, Sir. The work carried out by the SSC is only the first stage of site selection process. Site clearances are required to be taken on safety angle from Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and environmental angle from Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) before a project at any site can be approved by the Government. In addition, demand for electricity, energy options available to a region for meeting its demand, availability of funds and order of suitability of sites are considerations in location of nuclear power plants.

(e) The nuclear power plants are in the Central Sector and therefore beneficiary States in an electricity region have a share of power regardless of the actual location of the project in the region.

Branch post offices in Himachal Pradesh

†2555. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether criteria for opening sub post offices are relaxed in remote, hilly and bordering States like Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of conditions which are being relaxed;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.